

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1           1. Portable terminal equipment that has input means  
2   inputting a character and display means and has functions of  
3   creating, displaying and sending/receiving e-mail, comprising:  
4           preview control means that previews a character string  
5   by replacing each character in the character string with one  
6   or a plurality of dots.

1           2. The portable terminal equipment according to claim 1,  
2   wherein said preview control means previews said character string  
3   in a predetermined format.

1           3. The portable terminal equipment according to claim 2,  
2   wherein said e-mail is displayed in the format on terminal  
3   equipment to which said e-mail is sent.

1           4. The portable terminal equipment according to claim 1,  
2   wherein said plurality of dots are formed in a cluster.

1           5. The portable terminal equipment according to claim 1,  
2   further comprising first setting means setting the number of  
3   characters per line; and  
4   wherein said preview control means previews said character  
5   string according to setting set by said first setting means.

1           6. The portable terminal equipment according to claim 1,

2 further comprising insertion means inserting, when the character  
3 inputted by said input means exceeds a predetermined number of  
4 characters, a carriage return and line feed code before the  
5 character exceeding the predetermined number of characters; and  
6 wherein said preview control means previews said character  
7 string inputted by said input means according to said carriage  
8 return and line feed code.

1 7. The portable terminal equipment according to claim 6,  
2 further comprising second setting means setting said  
3 predetermined number of characters.

1 8. The portable terminal equipment according to claim 1,  
2 further comprising display processing means displaying a  
3 predetermined part of said previewed e-mail in the original  
4 character form.

1 9. The portable terminal equipment according to claim 8,  
2 wherein said predetermined part is a part including the left  
3 end of said previewed e-mail.

1 10. Portable terminal equipment that has input means  
2 inputting a character and display means and has functions of  
3 creating, displaying and sending/receiving e-mail, comprising:  
4 display processing means that displays characters of a  
5 predetermined part of said e-mail displayed on terminal equipment  
6 to which said e-mail is sent.

1           11. The portable terminal equipment according to claim  
2   10, wherein said predetermined part includes the beginning part  
3   of a line of said e-mail displayed on said terminal equipment.

1           12. A method for previewing e-mail in portable terminal  
2   equipment, comprising the steps of:  
3           replacing each character in a character string of said  
4   inputted e-mail with one or a plurality of dots; and  
5           previewing said character string in which said each  
6   character is replaced with the dot or dots.

1           13. The method for previewing e-mail according to claim  
2   12, further comprising a step of selecting a preview function.

1           14. The method for previewing e-mail according to claim  
2   12, wherein said step of replacing each character in said  
3   character string with a dot or dots replaces said each character  
4   of said character string in a predetermined format with a dot  
5   or dots.

1           15. The method for previewing e-mail according to claim  
2   14, wherein said e-mail is displayed in the format on terminal  
3   equipment to which said e-mail is sent.

1           16. The method for previewing e-mail according to claim  
2   12, wherein said plurality of dots are formed in a cluster.

1           17. The method for previewing e-mail according to claim  
2 12, wherein said each character in said character string is  
3 replaced with a dot or dots by starting a new line according  
4 to a predetermined number of characters per line.

1           18. The method for previewing e-mail according to claim  
2 12, wherein when the character string of said inputted e-mail  
3 exceeds a predetermined number of characters, a carriage return  
4 and line feed code is inserted before a character exceeding the  
5 number of characters and said each character in said character  
6 string is replaced with a dot or dots according to the carriage  
7 return and line feed code.